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YUGOSLAVIA MOVES TO STRENGTHEN TIES  
WITH YUGOSLAV ABROAD

ESTABLISH CROATIAN EMIGRANT SOCIETY -- Split, Slobodna Dalmacija, 12 May 51

Recently, the Matica Iseljenika Hrvatske (Croatian Emigrant Society) was established in Zagreb to maintain very close ties and cooperate with all Yugoslav emigrants. The basic function of the organization is to strengthen and develop friendly and fraternal relations with Yugoslav emigrants and to rebuild their faith in Yugoslavia, which they left because they could not live in it. Members of the organization may be labor unions, societies, cooperatives, organizations, or individuals. Branches of the organization will be established in all large cities of Croatia.

The society will establish close cooperation between emigrant and Yugoslav social and fraternal organizations and work to extend cultural ties with Yugoslavia. The society will promote exchange visits of individual and groups, entertain cultural organizations, societies, etc.

The society will also concern itself with the children of Yugoslav emigrants. It will aid their schools, organize visits and vacations, and thus help acquaint them with Yugoslavia. The organization will also attempt to strengthen ties with Yugoslav emigrants by means of the press, etc.

ESTABLISH BRANCH OF EMIGRANT SOCIETY IN SPLIT -- Belgrade, Politika, 23 May 51

Split, 22 May -- A branch of the Matica Iseljenika Hrvatske was established in Split recently.

Over 1,300,000 Croatians live abroad. About a million Croatians live in the US, 200,000 in South America, 20,000 in Canada, 20,000 in European countries, and about 13,000 in Australia and New Zealand.

Shipments worth over 2,732,000 US dollars have been received from the US and Canada through the American Council for Help to Yugoslavia.

- 1 -

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CROATIAN VOLUNTEER FIREMEN TO RECEIVE MILITARY TRAINING -- Zagreb, Narodni List,  
16 Apr 51

On 15 April, the Federation of Volunteer Fire-Fighting Associations of Croatia held its annual conference in Zagreb, attended by delegates from the srez associations, volunteer fire-fighting associations, representatives of PAZ (Antiaircraft Defense), the Red Cross, and delegates from fire-fighting organizations of Serbia and Slovenia.

Croatia has almost 1,100 fire-fighting associations which are organized better than in previous years. The conference decided to try to supplement operational fire-fighting units with women and young people.

The conference decided that fire-fighting associations, in addition to their traditional function, would from now on be fighting organizations capable of mobilizing their members to bear arms. Fire-fighting units now participate in training courses, partisan marches, and similar training, and have organized such activities in many towns.

Jurica Drausnik, Minister in the Croatian government, was chosen president of the federation. A plenum of 70 members, representing srez associations and Croatian industry, was also established.

70,000 MEMBERS IN AVIATION COUNCIL -- Sarajevo, Oslobođenje, 21 May 51

The Yugoslav Aviation Council has about 70,000 members. In 1950, about 8,000 members were instructed in model building, gliding, piloting, and parachuting. Annually, about 10,000 young men and women are engaged in flying.

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- 2 -

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